

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
EA-12 FRB-01 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-11 NSAE-00 ICA-20  
OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00  
OMB-01 SS-15 STR-07 XMB-04 /135 W  
-----009141 182029Z /46

R 171100Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6409  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS VIENNA 04518

USOECD  
PASS TREASURY AND FEDERAL RESERVE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OECD, EFIN, ETRD, ELAB, AU  
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC INDICATORS ON SMALLER OECD COUNTRIES:  
- AUSTRIA

REF: (A) VIENNA 4127 (B) 77 VIENNA A-10

THIS REPORT PROVIDES UPDATED STATISTICS ON AUSTRIAN ECON-  
OMIC INDICATORS TO THE EXTENT THEY WERE AVAILABLE BY  
MAY 15, 1978. STATISTICS FORWARDED IN PRECEDING REPORTS,  
ON WHICH NO NEW DATA HAVE BECOME AVAILABLE, ARE NOT RE-  
PEATED. ITEM NUMBERING IS KEYED TO THE INITIAL REPORT.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS:

(A) OUTPUT AND DEMAND

(3) RETAIL SALES (1973 100, REAL TERMS): 2/78: 87.6 --  
DOWN 7.2 PERCENT FROM 2/77 DUE TO 28.8 PERCENT DROP IN  
TURNOVER OF DURABLES (NOTABLY VEHICLES MINUS 50.2 PERCENT,  
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WATCHES AND JEWELRY MINUS 21.2 PERCENT, ELECTROTECHNICAL  
PRODUCTS MINUS 12.9 PERCENT, ALL OF WHICH WERE AFFECTED  
BY THE LUXURY TAX). OTHER GOODS AFFECTED BY MAJOR DE-  
CLINES IN TURNOVER WERE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING (MINUS 8.8  
PERCENT) AND FURNITURE (MINUS 10.0 PERCENT).

(B) PRICE INDICES

(2) WPI (1976 100): 4/78: 104.5 -- DOWN 0.2 FROM 3/78  
AND 0.5 LOWER THAN 4/77. THIS WAS THE FIRST DECLINE  
FROM THE YEAR-AGO LEVEL SINCE MORE THAN TEN YEARS.

(3) EXPORT PRICES (1971 100): 3/78: 131 -- UNCHANGED  
FROM 2/78 BUT 3.0 LOWER THAN 3/77. JAN-MAR 78 AVERAGE  
DECLINE FROM 1977 LEVEL WAS 2.0 . DURING SAME PERIOD,  
IMPORT PRICES ROSE 1.2.

(E) LABOR

(1) TOTAL EMPLOYMENT: 4/78: 2,722.548 -- DOWN 0.3 FROM  
3/78 BUT STILL 0.6 HIGHER THAN 4/77 AND HIGHEST EVER  
RECORDED IN APRIL.

(2) UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (PERCENT): 4/78: 2.1.

(3) GUEST WORKERS: 3/78: 170,802 R, 4/78: 175,622

(F) TRADE AND PAYMENTS

(3) EXPORT VOLUME (THOUSANDS OF METRIC TONS): 3/78:  
1,066.1

(4) IMPORT VOLUME (THOUSANDS OF METRIC TONS): 3/78:  
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2,481.3

(6) OFFICIAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES (AS MILLION EQUI-  
VALENTS): 4/78: 66,803.

P PRELIMINARY  
R REVISED WOLF

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, ECONOMIC REPORTS  
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**Draft Date:** 17 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 78 VIENNA 4127, 77 VIENNA A-10  
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**TAGS:** EFIN, ETRD, ELAB, AU, OECD  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014